

years. Yet this species was found to be abundant on one of the Bermuda Islands. Unfortunately, we have been unable to revisit this island, and at the present time it has been taken over as an American military base so that we can not check on its reoccurrence.

A second species, rare in America but abundant in Bermuda, is one described as new by the writer more than thirty years ago as *Ophionectria cylindrothecia* from a single specimen collected on cornstalks in Ohio at a much earlier but unknown date. Nothing more was seen or heard of this species until it was found among material on palm stems sent by Professor Whetzel in 1921 from Bermuda for determination. On our later visits to Bermuda it was again collected and found to be exceedingly common and abundant on the native endemic palmetto palm. This species then is known from no other place in the world except from one original collection in Ohio and abundant material obtained in Bermuda at different times and by different collectors. Just why should certain species, exceedingly rare in Europe or America, be abundant in this isolated spot? No explanation can be offered at the present time.

Of more than a score of species described as new to science from material collected on our last two visits, one only will be mentioned here, a subterranean puffball, *Scleroderma bermudensis*, described by Pro-

fessor W. C. Coker, of North Carolina. Remains of this fungus were frequently noted on the sands along the shore and at first taken to be those of an earthstar. It was some time before it was discovered that it was the outer covering of a puffball which during its early stages was entirely concealed in the sand. At maturity the outer covering splits into several rays which bend outward in such a manner as to raise the spore mass as "by its bootstraps" out of the sand where the spores are easily and quickly dispersed by the wind, leaving the remains looking like pieces of dried leather. It is difficult to locate one before the outer covering begins to rupture, at which time this peculiar organism first becomes evident as a crack in the sand. This seems to be another endemic species.

All scientific exploration in these islands, which has become a naval base, has been suspended "for the duration." But there will always be a Bermuda, and it is hoped it may escape the ravages of war, and when the conflict is over it may remain the quiet, restful place so greatly beloved by such men as Woodrow Wilson, Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) and many other outstanding Americans. At that time we hope we may resume our explorations and researches in that obscure but fascinating field, the mycoflora of Bermuda.

FRED J. SEAVER

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

## SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

### DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. CHARLES NELSON HASKINS, Chandler professor of mathematics at Dartmouth College, died on November 14 at the age of sixty-eight years.

DR. LUTHER CROUSE PETER, professor emeritus of ophthalmology of the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, died on November 12. He was seventy-three years old.

GEORGE BURR UPTON, professor of automotive engineering at Cornell University, a member of the faculty for thirty-seven years, died on October 2 at the age of sixty years.

DR. ROBERT LINTON, of Los Angeles, consulting mining and industrial engineer, died on November 12 at the age of seventy-two years.

THE New York City Board of Health on November 10 adopted a resolution in memory of the late Dr. S. S. Goldwater for "Raising to new and high levels the standards of medical care." Dr. Goldwater, who had been a commissioner of the City Board of Health, died on October 22.

### THE NATIONAL REGISTRY OF RARE CHEMICALS

THE National Registry of Rare Chemicals, Armour

Research Foundation, Thirty-third, Federal and Dearborn Streets, Chicago, receives requests for sources of certain chemicals at a rate of approximately two hundred and fifty per month.

Dr. Martin H. Heeren, director of the registry, sends a list of chemicals for which no source is known to the registry. If any reader has one or more in his laboratory, he is urged to communicate with the registry. Even small amounts are important, inasmuch as all requested chemicals are to be used for experimental purposes only.

1. 2,4,6,2',4',6' Hexachlorradiazoamino benzene
2. Quinone-bis-beta naphthylimine
3. Porphyrindien
4. 5-Amino-Nicotinic Acid
5. Diethyl Oleyl Amid Phosphate
6. Hexamethylene di iso cyanate
7. Fused Titanium rod 99 per cent. pure
8. CaSi<sub>2</sub>
9. Lichenin
10. Pepsinogen
11. 1,8 Dihydroanthraquinone
12. Calcium Sulfaguayacolate
13. Ergotamine Tartrate
14. 2,3,5-triiodophenoxy acetic acid
15. 2,3,5-trichlorophenoxy acetic acid